Pre-Elementary Education Longitudinal Study

Elementary School Principal Questionnaire

























"because all children should count ... read, learn, grow, and have friends...

Pre-Elementary Education Longitudinal Study

Elementary School Principal Questionnaire

Dear Principal:

One or more children in your school program are participating in an important U.S. Department of Education study called the Pre-Elementary Education Longitudinal Study (PEELS). A brochure describing the study is enclosed. The child is one of more than 3,000 children nationwide who are taking part in PEELS. The Elementary School Principal Questionnaire is a critical source of information about the educational programs and services for this child. Because of this, your participation is vitally important.

Please complete the Elementary School Principal Questionnaire and return it in the postage-paid envelope within 3 weeks. Be assured that your answers will be confidential and no information will be reported that identifies you or this school. We have enclosed a gift certificate as a token of our appreciation.

Before beginning this survey, you may want to gather the following information so that you will be able to complete the survey more quickly:

- 1. Student body demographic information, including number of students on free or reduced-price lunch program, number of students who are English language learners, and ethnicity and number of students with disabilities
- 2. School personnel numbers (e.g., number of teachers and other school personnel working in your school, number of teachers who are new to your school, and number of teachers with less than 3 years' teaching experience)
- 3. Number of suspensions, expulsions, and incidents of violence **during the previous** school year

If you have any questions about the study or the questionnaire, please feel free to call the PEELS toll-free hot line at 1-888-534-8348, send an email to *questions@peels.org*, or visit the PEELS web site at *www.peels.org*.

Thank you in advance for your contribution to this very important study.

Sincerely,

Elaine Carlson
Project Director, PEELS

Call the PEELS toll-free hot line: 1-888-534-8348

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a survey unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this survey is 1820-0656. The time required to complete it is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the questionnaire. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: US Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to: Office of Special Education Programs, US Department of Education, 600 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651.

ms, US Department of Education, 600 Independence Ave., SW, OMB Control # 1820-0656, Expiration date: 11/30/04

Section A:

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

A1.	 Which of the following best describes your school? PLEASE Regular elementary or secondary school that serves a wide control of the serves only students with disabilities School that specializes in a particular subject area or the called a magnet school Alternative school Charter school Another kind of school (Specify:	de variety of students me, sometimes
A2.	 Which of the following describes this school? PLEASE ✓ CHECK 1 ○ a. Public school 2 ○ b. Private school 3 ○ c. Residential/boarding school 4 ○ d. Home school 	K ALL THAT APPLY.
A3.	 What grade levels are taught at this school? PLEASE ✓ CHECK A 01	ALL THAT APPLY.
A4.	Around October 1 of this school year, how many students were school? PLEASE ENTER ONE NUMBER. Number of students enrolled on October 1	e enrolled at your

	Numb	er of children enrolled in preschool programs on October 1
A6.		of the following best describes the community in which this school is located? E \checkmark CHECK ONE.
	02 O 03 O 04 O	Rural community Small city or town of fewer than 50,000 people that is not a suburb of a larger city Medium-sized city (50,000 to 99,999 people) Suburb of a medium-sized city Large city (100,000 to 500,000 people) Suburb of a large city Very large city (more than 500,000 people) Suburb of a very large city Military base or station Indian reservation

A5. Around October 1 of this school year, how many children were enrolled at your

school in preschool programs, including Pre-K? PLEASE ENTER ONE NUMBER.

school under the No	Child Left Behind	Act? PLEASE	CHECK ONE IN EAC	H ROW.
Is this a			Vas	No

A7. Has your school been designated as a school in *need of improvement* or a *low-performing*

13 U 113 a	163	INU
School in need of improvement?	1 🔾	2 🔾
Low-performing school?	1 🔾	2 🔾



STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS

(PLEASE FEEL FREE TO **ESTIMATE** PERCENTAGES OR NUMBERS AS NEEDED.)

B1. Around October 1 of this school year, about how many students in your school belonged to each of the following ethnic groups?

PLEASE INDICATE PERCENTAGE OR NUMBER IN EACH ROW.

	Percentage of children	OR	Number of children
a. American Indian or Alaska Native, not Hispanic	%		
b. Asian, not Hispanic	%		
c. Black or African American, not Hispanic	%		
d. Hispanic or Latino	%		
e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, not Hispanic	%		
f. White, not Hispanic	%		

B2.	Around October 1 of this school year, about how many students were identified
	as English language learners (ELL) (e.g., limited-English-proficient [LEP] or
	English-as-a-second-language [ESL] students)? PLEASE ENTER ONE NUMBER.

Number of ELL	(LEP or ESL)	students	student

В3.	About what percentage of your school's students are from low-income families (e.g., have a child in the free or reduced-price lunch program)? PLEASE CHECK ONE.				
	1 O Less than 25%				
	2 🔾	25%-50%			
	3 0 51-75%				
	4 🔾	More than 75%			
	8 🔾	Don't know			
B4.	34. During the 2002-03 school year, approximately how many of the following occurr at your school? PLEASE ENTER ONE NUMBER ON EACH LINE.				
	a. Exp	pulsions			
	b. Out-of-school suspensions c. In-school suspensions				
d. Incidents of violence					

- **B5.** Around October 1 of this school year, about how many students with IEPs in your school were in each of the following disability categories?
 - In EACH ROW, please enter ONE number in Column A (for children ages 3 through 5) and ONE number in Column B (for children ages 6 and older) to represent the respective numbers of children with IEPs/IFSPs for whom that disability is considered PRIMARY.
 - · Please include each child in only one category.

	Number who have the following as a primary disability		
	Column A Ages 3 through 5	Column B Ages 6 and older	
a. Attention deficit disorder(ADD)/Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)			
b. Autism/Asperger's syndrome			
c. Deaf/blindness			
d. Developmental delay			
e. Emotional disturbance/behavior disorder			
f. Hearing impairments/deafness			
g. Learning disability			
h. Mild mental retardation			
i. Moderate/severe mental retardation			
j. Multiple disabilities			
k. Orthopedic impairment			
l. Other health impairment			
m. Speech or language impairment			
n. Traumatic brain injury			
o. Visual impairment/blindness			
p. Other (Specify:)			



STAFF, PROGRAMS, AND RESOURCES

C1. How many of the following personnel (including those contracted for services) work in your school during a typical week? Please report numbers in full-time equivalents (FTEs). PLEASE COUNT EACH PERSON IN ONLY **ONE** CATEGORY.

		Approximate total FTE in a typical week
a.	General education classroom teachers	
b.	Special education classroom teachers (self-contained or single-subject teachers)	
c.	Special education resource room teachers	
d.	Reading specialists	
e.	Speech/communication therapists or pathologists	
f.	Nursing/medical personnel	
g.	School psychologists or other diagnostic personnel	
h.	Guidance counselors	
i.	Other related services personnel (e.g., occupational or physical therapists)	
j.	Paid teacher aides/instructional assistants	
k.	Librarians/library aides or library staff	
1.	Itinerant or special-subjects personnel not already accounted for above (e.g., district music or physical education personnel who teach a specific subject at multiple schools or come to the school for one subject)	
m	. Administrators (e.g., principal, vice principals)	

C2. About what percentage of the teachers (general education and special education) at your school...PLEASE ENTER **ONE** PERCENTAGE ON EACH LINE.

	Percentage of teachers
a. Are fully credentialed for their primary teaching assignment?	%
b. Are in their first year at this school?	%
c. Have less than 3 years' teaching experience?	%

C3. Which of the following services, resources, or programs does your school have, either as part of the curriculum, or before or after school hours? PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

Additional academic programs

- on O a. Supplemental instructional services in reading or language arts
- o2 O b. Supplemental instructional services in math
- os O c. Academic supports, such as academic clubs, tutoring or mentoring assistance outside of regular class offerings (e.g., homework club, Saturday academies, etc.)
- o4 O d. Diagnostic and prescriptive services (services provided by trained professionals to diagnose learning problems and to plan and provide therapeutic or educational programs)
- os O e. Programs for gifted and talented students

Enrichment and recreation programs

- of O f. Extended-day, before-school or after-school enrichment programs (e.g., Beacons programs, cultural activity groups, special-interest groups)
- o7 O g. An extended school year program (e.g., classes or activities in the summer)
- 08 h. Weekend program for students
- 09 O i. Band, chorus, drama, or other performing opportunities for students
- 10 O j. Organized school sports activities before or after school

Health/mental health services

- k. School-based health services (services provided by trained professionals—for example, physician, physician assistant, nurse, or nurse practitioner—to diagnose and treat health problems of students)
- 12 O l. Counseling or pupil services

continued >

	13 🔾	m. Family literacy program
	14 🔾	n. Parent education or other classes for parents
	15 🔾	o. Parent liaison
	<u>16</u> O	p. Family resource center or drop-in center for parents or community member
	<u>17</u> O	q. Services for out-of-school youth
	18 🔾	r. School-to-work activities
	Langu	age-learning programs
	19 🔾	s. Instruction in English for ELL (e.g., LEP, ESL)
	20 🔾	t. Instruction in languages other than English
	Other	programs/initiatives
	21 O	u. Title I
	22 🔾	v. Class size reduction initiative
	23 🔾	w. School-wide reform project (e.g., Success for All, Comer Schools, Accelerated Schools)
	24 🔾	x. Conflict resolution/conflict management program
	25 🔾	y. Other (Specify:
C 4.		n of the following service options are available for special education students ar school site? PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.
	01 🔾	a. General education/inclusion program with special services provided in general education classroom
	02 🔾	b. Part-time resource room for special education students
	03 🔾	c. Self-contained special education classrooms
	04 🔾	d. General and special education co-taught classes
	05 🔾	e. Preschool classes primarily for children with disabilities (include reverse mainstream classes)
	06 🔾	f. Preschool classes exclusively for children with disabilities
	07 🔾	g. Preschool classes primarily or exclusively for typically developing children
	08 🔾	h. Head Start
	09 🔾	i. Other (Specify:)

Parent or community programs

Section D:

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

- IF YOUR SCHOOL **DOES NOT** PROVIDE CLASSES FOR CHILDREN YOUNGER THAN KINDER-GARTEN, **PLEASE GO TO SECTION E**.
- IF YOUR SCHOOL **DOES** PROVIDE CLASSES FOR CHILDREN YOUNGER THAN KINDERGARTEN, **PLEASE CONTINUE WITH D1.** If you cannot answer all of the questions in Section D, please consult with someone who would have this information.
- **D1.** The following are statements commonly associated with various educational philosophies. Which three statements best describe the philosophy or approach of your program?
 - · Write the number 1 next to the most important approach

•	Write the number 2 next to the second most important approach. Write the number 3 next to the third most important approach.	
		Rank 1, 2, 3
a.	We assume that children learn naturally when they are developmentally ready. The interest of the child and age appropriateness of skills are emphasized in determining program content.	
b.	We believe that teaching children the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in school is critical. Structured learning experiences in academic content areas are a central part of the program.	
c.	We emphasize principles of behavior modification and precision teaching. Target behaviors are specified and skills are sequenced and taught using strategies such as modeling, prompting, fading, and reinforcing of successive approximation.	
d.	We combine developmental theory with a behavioral model to identify target behaviors and use behavioral strategies when appropriate.	
e.	We emphasize the way individual children and parents/guardians influence each other's behavior. Interventions target primarily the parent/guardian, who is taught to interpret the child's behavior and respond appropriately.	
f.	We focus on a child's medical diagnosis and concentrate on therapeutic interventions.	
g.	We recognize that the child is a member of a family system and base services on the perceived strengths and priorities of family members.	
h.	Other (Specify:)	

D2.	2. Approximately what year were services for preschool children with disabilities provided through or at your school? PLEASE GIVE YOUR BEST ESTIMATE.			
	Year w	rhen services were first provided		
D3.		would you characterize the way children with and without disabilities are not together in your preschool program? PLEASE CHECK ONE.		
	00 🔾	Not applicable—we do not currently have children without disabilities enrolled in this preschool class or program.		
	01 🔾	Not applicable—we do not currently have children with disabilities enrolled in this preschool class or program.		
	02 🔾	Children with and without disabilities are not in contact with one another.		
	03 🔾	Classes for children with and without disabilities share common space (e.g., playground/and or lunch room) ONLY.		
	04 🔾	Children without disabilities spend part of the day in the classroom for children with disabilities.		
	05 🔾	Children with disabilities spend part of the day in a classroom of children without disabilities.		
	06 🔾	Children with disabilities spend the entire day in a classroom of children without disabilities.		
	07 O	Other (Specify:)		
	98 🔾	Not sure; Don't know.		



SPECIAL EDUCATION POLICIES AND PRACTICES

- IF YOUR SCHOOL SERVES **BOTH GENERAL AND SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS**, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH QUESTION E1.
- IF YOUR SCHOOL SERVES ONLY STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, PLEASE GO TO QUESTION E4.
- IF YOU **DO NOT HAVE ANY SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS,** PLEASE GO TO SECTION F.

E1.	Is there a formal and systematic written procedure for providing alternatives to students who are not yet receiving special education services and who are experiencing learning and/or other problems? 1 ○ Yes → Continue with Question E2 2 ○ No → Go to Question E3
E2.	Which of the following are involved in this procedure? PLEASE ✓ CHECK ALL THAT APPLY. 1 ○ a. School team conference (e.g., multidisciplinary team, child study team) 2 ○ b. Individual consultation provided to teachers by a specialist 3 ○ c. Special education pre-referral intervention team 4 ○ d. Parent conferences 5 ○ e. Other (Specify:)
ЕЗ.	Which of the following are available to general education teachers in your school when special education students are included in their classes? PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY. o1 O a. Consultation by special education staff or other staff

o2 O b. Special materials to use with special education students

o5 O e. Smaller student load or class size

95 h. None of these

os O c. In-service training on the needs of special education students

of O f. Co-teaching/team teaching with a special education teacher

o7 O g. Other (Specify: _____

04 O d. Teacher aides, instructional assistants, or aides for individual students

E4.	• Over the past year, which of the following have been provided to students		
	as part of their IEP or 504 plans? PLEASE \checkmark CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.		
	Accommodations/modification		
	01 O	a. More time in taking tests	
	02 🔾	b. Test read to student	
	03 🔾	c. Modified tests	
	04 🔾	d. Modified grading standards	
	05 🔾	e. Slower-paced instruction	
	06 🔾	f. Additional time to complete assignments	
		g. Shorter assignments	
	08	h. Physical adaptations (e.g., preferential seating, special desks)	
	Additi	onal supports and assistance	
	09 🔾	i. Reader or interpreter	
	10 🔾	j. Teacher aides or instructional assistants	
	11 🔾	k. Student progress monitored by special education teacher or related services provider	
	12 🔾	l. Tutoring by special education teacher	
		m.Behavior management program	
	\sim	n. Learning strategies/study skills assistance	
	Learni	ng aids	
	15 🔾	o. Books on tape	
	16 🔾	p. Communication aids (e.g., Touch Talker, manual printing board)	
	17 O	q. Use of spell checker	
	18 🔾	r. Computer software designed for students with disabilities	
	19 🔾	s. Computer hardware adapted for student's unique needs (e.g., alternative keyboards, switch interface)	
	20 🔾	t. Other (Specify:)	
	95 🔾	No accommodations/modifications, additional supports, or learning aids provided (NOT ANY of items <i>a.</i> through <i>t.,</i> above)	

5.	Who generally participates in IEP or 504 plan development and review? PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.			
	01 🔾	a. General education academic subject teacher(s)		
	\sim	b. Special education teacher(s)		
		c. School administrator (e.g., principal, special education director, program coordinator)		
	04 O	d. School counselor or psychologist		
	05 🔾	e. Related services personnel (e.g., speech therapist/pathologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist)		
	06 🔾	f. Parent/guardian(s)		
	07 O	g. Student		
	080	h. Staff from previous school or program		
	09 🔾	i. Staff of outside service agency or outside consultant		
	10 🔾	j. Advocate		
	11)	k. Other (Specify:)		
6.	manda are ma	an of the following statements best describes your school's practice regarding ated standardized tests for students with disabilities? "When standardized test andated, special education students are" PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY a. Required to follow the same procedures and meet the same standards for successful completion as regular education students b. Provided special accommodation in taking the test (e.g., reader, dictation, more time)		
	3 O	c. Provided with a modified version of the test (e.g., shortened version, different test materials covering same content)		
	4	d. Given the option to complete an alternate assessment		
	5	e. Other (Specify:)		
	3	c. other (speeny.		
7.		are decisions made regarding which standardized tests are given to individual ats with disabilities? PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.		
	01 🔾	a. Not applicable (no students with disabilities take these tests)		
	02 🔾	b. Principal decision		
	03 🔾	c. IEP committee decision		
	04 🔾	d. Individual general education teacher decision		
	05 🔾	e. Individual special education teacher decision		
	\sim	f. Parental request		
	~	g. Other (Specify:		

E8.	In the most recent reporting of your school's standardized test scores, scores of special education students treated? PLEASE CHECK ONE.	how we	ere the
	All special education student test scores were included with sco general education students in the school.	res repor	ted for
	Some special education student test scores were included with s for general education students in the school.	scores rep	ported
	Special education student test scores were reported, but NOT in scores for the general education students.	cluded w	vith
E9.	Standards-based reform is being implemented in various ways around How are students with disabilities addressed in your school's academi standards (e.g., for math, reading)? PLEASE CHECK ONE.		•
	O Not applicable, our school does not use specific content standard	rds	
	General policy statement (e.g., "standards will apply to all stude	· ·	
	Specific references to students with disabilities (e.g., "standards students with a diversity of learner styles, including students with disabilities (e.g., "standards students with disabilities (
	3 O Specific written accommodations and adaptations		,
	4 O Individual students handled on a case-by-case basis		
	No special references to students with disabilities		
	6 Other (Specify:		_)
E10	Does your school arrange alternative services or placements for special students who are expelled and/or suspended from your school? PLEASE CHECK ONE.	al educat	ion
	O Not applicable (special education students are not expelled or st	uspende	d)
	1 Yes		
	2 No		
E11	Does your school have a policy that prohibits the promotion of stude performing poorly (e.g., social promotion)? PLEASE CHECK ONE CIRCLE IN EACH ROW.	ents who	are
		Yes	No
	a. Policy prohibits social promotion for general education students?	1 🔾	2 🔾
	b. Policy prohibits social promotion for special education students?	1 🔾	2 🔾

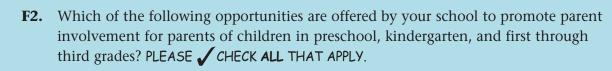


PARENT INVOLVEMENT

- **F1.** Which of the following forms of communication occur between parents and staff at your school? PLEASE ✓ CHECK ALL THAT APPLY IN...

 - COLUMN A for preschool
 COLUMN B for kindergarten
 COLUMN C for first, second, and third grades

	A Preschool	B Kindergarten	C First through third grades
a. Not applicable (i.e., our school does not serve that grade level).	01 🔾	01 🔾	01 🔾
b. Parents are given interim reports or report cards on student performance or attendance.	02 🔾	02 🔾	02 🔾
c. Parents are asked to sign off on homework.	03 🔾	03 🔾	03 🔾
d. Parents are given phone calls or notes from teachers.	04 🔾	04 🔾	04 🔾
e. Parents have access to a school-sponsored "homework hot line."	05 🔾	05 🔾	05 🔾
f. Parents are given examples of work that meets high standards.	06 🔾	06 🔾	06)
g. Parents have access to the school's web site with information specifically for parents.	07 🔾	07 🔾	07 🔾
h. A regular system for communicating with parents exists (e.g., newsletter or phone tree).	08 🔾	08 🔾	08 🔾
i. None of these.	95 🔾	95 🔾	95 🔾



	A Preschool	B Kindergarten	C First through third grades
a. Not applicable (i.e., our school does not serve that grade level)	01 🔾	01 🔾	01 🔾
b. Open house or "back-to-school night"	02 🔾	02 🔾	02 🔾
c. Regularly scheduled schoolwide parent-teacher conferences	03 🔾	03 🔾	03 🔾
d. Special subject-area events to which parents are invited (e.g., science fairs)	04 🔾	04 🔾	04 🔾
e. Parent presentations at "career days" or other occupational development activities	05 🔾	05 🔾	05 🔾
f. Parent education workshops or courses	06 🔾	06 🔾	06 🔾
g. Written contract between school and parent	07 🔾	07 🔾	07 🔾
h. Parent-child learning activities at school (e.g., "Family Math")	08 🔾	08 🔾	08 🔾
i. Parents as volunteers in the school	09 🔾	09 🔾	09 🔾
j. Parents as paid classroom aides	10 🔾	10 🔾	10 🔾
k. Parents involved in instructional issues (e.g., materials selection)	11 🔾	11 🔾	11 🔾
l. Parents involved in governance (e.g., on school site management council)	12 🔾	12 🔾	12 🔾
m. At-home parent-child learning activities to support school objectives	13 🔾	13 🔾	13 🔾
n. Services to support parent involvement (e.g., child care for school events)	14 🔾	14 🔾	14 🔾
o. Translation of school information into languages other than English to be used by parents	15 🔾	15 🔾	15 🔾
p. Parents as advocates	16 🔾	16 🔾	16 🔾
q. Formal parent advisory committee	17 🔾	17 🔾	17 🔾
r. Other (Specify:)	18 🔾	18 🔾	18 🔾

which of the following are provided to children and families to support the transition
nto kindergarten or elementary school? PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.
a. Children and families visit our school before school starts.
b. The sending school provides us with information about individual students (e.g., student performance information, disability awareness).
c. Our school staff meet with those from the sending school specifically about individual students.
d. Parents and children are encouraged to meet with staff from our school individually before starting school here.
e. Preparatory strategies are developed for individual students who need them (e.g., behavior plans, school scheduling modifications, etc.).
f. For children with disabilities, staff participate in IEP meetings with staff from the sending school.
7 O g. Other (Specify:)
5 O h. None of these.

Date Completed://_ mm dd yy	Please provide your name and contact information below, so that we can reach you if we have questions.			
Your Name:				
School/Program Name:				
Address:				
Phone: ()				
Email:				

Please continue to the back cover.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.



Please return this questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope to:

Pre-Elementary Education Longitudinal Study Westat











Education Programs
WESTAT

"because **all** children should **count**...
read, learn, grow, and have friends..."